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Application No.: 10/762053

Case No.: 53912US011

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions of claims:

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled).
2. (Canceled).
3. (Currently amended) An adhesive tape comprising:
 a backing and a layer of adhesive on said backing;
 wherein said backing has an energy to sever of up to 350 N-cm/cm² when severed according to The Dispense Test - Metal Blade and has a tensile elongation to break from above about 55% to about 170%; and
 wherein said backing comprises a biaxially oriented substrate, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate comprises an isotactic polypropylene composition having a melt flow rate of at least 12 grams/10 minutes, and wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a melt flow rate ~~greater than 8~~ of at least 12 grams/10 minutes.
4. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate comprises a monolayer substrate.
5. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate comprises a multilayer film, and wherein with respect to the total thickness of said biaxially oriented substrate, at least 50% of the thickness of said biaxially oriented substrate comprises at least 90% isotactic polypropylene.
6. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 5, wherein a first plurality of said layers each comprise at least 90% isotactic polypropylene, and wherein said first plurality of layers comprise at least 50% of the total thickness of said biaxially oriented substrate.

Application No.: 10/762053

Case No.: 53912US011

7. (Previously presented) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a weight average molecular weight of at least 100,000.

8. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said backing has an elongation of up to 4% when scored according to The Dispense Test - Metal Blade.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) The adhesive tape of claim [[9]] 3, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a melt flow rate of at least 20 grams/10 minutes.

11. (Currently amended) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a melt flow rate of from greater than [[8]] 12 to 100 grams/10 minutes.

12. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said polypropylene composition has an isotacticity greater than about 90%.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently amended) The adhesive tape of claim [[14]] 3, wherein said polypropylene composition has a melt flow rate of at least 20 grams/10 minutes.

16. (Currently amended) The adhesive tape of claim 13, wherein said polypropylene composition has a melt flow rate of from greater than [[8]] 12 to 100 grams/10 minutes.

17. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said polypropylene composition comprises a blend of a first isotactic polypropylene having a first melt flow rate and a second isotactic polypropylene having a second melt flow rate greater than said first melt flow rate.

Application No.: 10/762053

Case No.: 53912US011

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 17, wherein said first polypropylene has a weight average molecular weight of at least 350,000 and said second polypropylene has a weight average molecular weight of at least 100,000.

23. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has been oriented to a final area stretch ratio of at least 36:1.

24. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 23, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has been simultaneously biaxially oriented.

25. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 23, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has been sequentially biaxially oriented.

26. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 3, wherein said adhesive comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive.

27. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 26, wherein said adhesive tape is spirally wound so as to provide a roll of tape.

28. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 27, wherein said roll is mounted on a dispenser including a metal cutting blade.

Application No.: 10/762053

Case No.: 53912US011

29. (Original) The adhesive tape of claim 27, wherein said roll is mounted on a dispenser including a plastic cutting blade.

30. (Currently Amended) A backing comprising a biaxially oriented substrate, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate comprises an isotactic polypropylene composition having a melt flow rate of at least 12 grams/10 minutes, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a melt flow rate ~~greater than 8~~ of at least 12 grams/10 minutes and a tensile elongation to break from above about 55% to about 170%.

31. (Original) The backing of claim 30, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate comprises a monolayer substrate.

32. (Original) The backing of claim 30, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate comprises a multilayer film, and wherein with respect to the total thickness of said biaxially oriented substrate, at least 50% of the thickness of said biaxially oriented substrate comprises at least 90% isotactic polypropylene.

33. (Original) The backing of claim 32, wherein a first plurality of said layers each comprise at least 90% isotactic polypropylene, and wherein said first plurality of layers comprise at least 50% of the total thickness of said biaxially oriented substrate.

34. (Previously presented) The backing of claim 30, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a weight average molecular weight of at least 100,000.

35. (Original) The backing of claim 30, wherein said backing has an elongation of up to 4% when severed according to The Dispense Test - Plastic Blade.

36. (Canceled).

Application No.: 10/762053

Case No.: 53912US011

37. (Currently amended) The backing of claim [[36]] 30, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a melt flow rate of at least 20 grams/10 minutes.

38. (Currently amended) The backing of claim 30, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has a melt flow rate of from greater than [[8]] 12 to 100 grams/10 minutes.

39. (Previously presented) The backing of claim 30, wherein said polypropylene composition has a weight average molecular weight of at least 100,000.

40. (Original) The backing of claim 30, wherein said polypropylene composition has an isotacticity greater than about 90%.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Canceled).

43. (Currently amended) The backing of claim [[42]], wherein said polypropylene composition has a melt flow rate of at least 20 grams/10 minutes.

44. (Canceled).

45. (Original) The backing of claim 30, wherein said polypropylene composition comprises a blend of a first isotactic polypropylene having a first melt flow rate and a second isotactic polypropylene having a second melt flow rate greater than said first melt flow rate.

46. (Canceled).

47. (Canceled).

48. (Canceled).

Application No.: 10/762053

Case No.: 53912US011

49. (Canceled).

50. (Original) The backing of claim 45, wherein said first polypropylene has a weight average molecular weight of at least 350,000 and said second polypropylene has a weight average molecular weight of at least 100,000.

51. (Original) The backing of claim 30, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has been oriented to a final area stretch ratio of at least 36:1.

52. (Original) The backing of claim 51, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has been simultaneously biaxially oriented.

53. (Original) The backing of claim 51, wherein said biaxially oriented substrate has been sequentially biaxially oriented.

54. (Original) The backing of claim 30, further comprising a layer of adhesive on said backing.

55. (Original) The backing of claims 54, wherein said adhesive comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive.

56. (Original) The backing of claim 55, wherein said adhesive tape is spirally wound so as to provide a roll of tape.

57. (Original) The backing of claim 56, wherein said roll is mounted on a dispenser including a metal cutting blade.

58. (Original) The backing of claim 56, wherein said roll is mounted on a dispenser including a plastic cutting blade.

Application No.: 10/762053Case No.: 53912US011

59. (Original) The backing of claim 30 wherein said backing has an energy to sever of up to 700 N-cm/cm² when severed according to The Dispense Test - Plastic Blade.

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